From: Derek Wong
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/9/01 11:43pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am against the current proposed settlement, which only requires Microsoft to stop practising the illegal acts they had committed in the past in the way they were committed in the past. The message to the industry is:

- (i) bullies are not punished even if caught;
- (iv) bullies only need to stop using the same dirty tricks in future fights;
- (ii) bullies can still keep their unfair winnings;
- (iii) victims do not get compensated;
- (v) the fights will resume with bullies in their undeserved dominant positions and victims in their weakened positions; and
- (vi) victims are motivated to use dirty tricks, as the above points show, the worst that could happen to bullies is still pretty good.

I firmly believe that had Microsoft NOT committed their illegal activities in the past, the public would be having a better computing experience through the innovation of a vibrant industry.

Instead, the progress of the industry has been incremental since the rise of Microsoft. Fundamental innovations, since then, have been few and far between. What innovations there were, such as Netscape browser and Sun Java, were quickly destroyed by Microsoft by means of illegal tactics.

A settlement must send a loud message that illegal behaviour will not be tolerated and a heavy price will be paid by bullies to victims.

Derek Wong